



Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources  
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## Fall Shotgun Turkey Season Opens October 23

**Press Release  
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**Frankfort, KY, (October 11, 2004)** – Several changes are in store for Kentucky fall shotgun turkey hunters when the season opens October 23. The October and December fall shotgun turkey seasons are two days longer this year. The October shotgun turkey season runs is October 23 – 29, and the December season will be December 4 -10.

“This increases opportunity,” said Jon Gassett, director of wildlife for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR). “We are not having an impact on the fall turkey flock. There is so much to hunt during the fall. There is a lot of competition for people’s time, so we are giving hunters as many days as we can.”

The numbers bear out what Gassett relates. Since the fall turkey archery season opened on September 4, only 296 birds have been harvested as of October 11. Taking a wary wild turkey with bow and arrow is one of hunting’s toughest challenges. The top county for the fall archery turkey season currently is Ohio with 12 birds reported, followed by Butler, Caldwell and Spencer with 11 turkeys harvested.

Fall shotgun turkey hunters may now use dogs to break up flocks and flush turkeys, but the practice is still prohibited for the spring turkey seasons. “It is really a different twist on using bird dogs,” Gassett said. “You are not shooting them on the wing like quail or grouse. The dog locates and breaks up the turkey flock and comes back to you and you put the dog in a camouflage bag. After you call a bird back to you and make the shot, you release the dog and it retrieves the bird.”

Shotgun turkey hunters may take two turkeys of either sex during the fall season, but only one bird may be taken per day. If a hunter is fortunate enough to take his or her two-bird “season” limit during the October segment of the fall gun season, he or she is ineligible to take birds by shotgun during the December segment. Fall shotgun turkey hunters must purchase a fall shotgun turkey permit; however, legal shotgun or

archery equipment is permitted during this season.

For more information on the fall shotgun turkey season, consult the Fall, 2004 and Spring, 2005 Kentucky Hunting and Trapping Guide, log on to [fw.ky.gov](http://fw.ky.gov), or call 1-800-858-1549.

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